

Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00

NIC-01 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 SAM-01

DRC-01 /091 W

----- 116380

R 210816Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5810

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0348

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CZ, GW, PINR (GOETZ, JIRI)

SUBJ: APPOINTMENT OF CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR TO FRG

1. CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT HAS JUST ANNOUNCED THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI GOETZ HAS BEEN NAMED FIRST CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR TO BONN. GOETZ IS WELL KNOWN TO GERMANS AS PRIMARY CZECHOSLOVAK NEGOTIATOR OF TREATY NORMALIZING RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES.

2. A SPECIALIST IN GERMAN AFFAIRS, BOTH EAST AND WEST, GOETZ BEGAN DIPLOMATIC CAREER WHEN DELEGATED FROM JOB AS LATHE OPERATOR IN NATIVE PILSEN TO BECOME WORKER-DIPLOMAT IN MFA FOLLOWING 1948 COMMUNIST TAKEOVER. SINCE THEN HE HAS SERVED IN EAST BERLIN, VIENNA AND ON MFA GERMAN DESK. HE HAS FIRM CONNECTIONS WITHIN INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HAVING SERVED ALSO THERE IN 1960'S, AND HE IS BELIEVED BY FRG EMBASSY TO BE PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT FOR EAST GERMANS WITH BOTH CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY AND GOVERNMENT. FRG EMBASSY OFFICER WHO DEALT EXTENSIVELY WITH GOETZ DURING TREATY NEGOTIATIONS REGARDS HIM AS ABLE DIPLOMAT WITH CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE.

3. SINCE BRANDT'S DECEMBER VISIT TO PRAGUE TO SIGN NORMAL-
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IZATION TREATY, SEVERAL OTHER OFFICIALS HAD BEEN RUMORED FOR

BONN JOB INCLUDING DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MIROSLAV RUZEK
AND CZECHOSLOVAK RADIO CHIEF JAN RISKO, THE LATTER A CLOSE
FRIEND OF FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK. SELECTION OF GOETZ,
A NATURAL FOR THE JOB, WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE CZECHOSLOVAKIA
WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO QUESTION
OF ITS RELATIONS WITH BONN.KOWORTZEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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